

In the Claims

Please delete Claims 17-23 as these claims recite the substantially linear ethylene polymer species of the homogeneously branched ethylene genus. Applicants intend to direct the presently claimed invention to the homogeneously branched linear ethylene polymer species.

Please delete Claim 11 as the limitation therein has been incorporated into the remaining claims by the amendments below.

Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

- 1/9. (Twice Amended) A film made from an ethylene polymer composition, wherein the composition comprises (A) from about 10 percent (by weight of the total composition) to about 95 percent (by weight of the total composition) of at least one homogeneously branched linear ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymer having:
- (i) a density from about 0.89 grams/cubic centimeter (g/cm^3) to about 0.935 g/cm^3 ,
 - (ii) a molecular weight distribution (M_w/M_n) from about 1.8 to about 2.8,
 - (iii) a melt index (I_2) from about 0.001 grams/10 minutes ($\text{g}/10 \text{ min}$) to about 10 $\text{g}/10 \text{ min}$,
 - (iv) no high density fraction,
 - (v) a single melting peak as measured using differential scanning calorimetry, and
 - (vi) a slope of strain hardening coefficient greater than or equal to 1.3; and
- (B) from about 5 percent (by weight of the total composition) to about 90 percent (by weight of the total composition) of at least one heterogeneously branched linear ethylene polymer having a density from about 0.93 g/cm^3 to about 0.965 g/cm^3 .

6/4. (Twice Amended) An ethylene polymer composition comprising (A) from about 10 percent (by weight of the total composition) to about 95 percent (by weight of the total composition) of at least one homogeneously branched linear ethylene/ α -olefin interpolymer having:

- (i) a density from about 0.89 grams/cubic centimeter (g/cm^3) to about 0.935 g/cm^3 ,
- (ii) a molecular weight distribution (M_w/M_n) from about 1.8 to about 2.8,

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- (iii) a melt index (I_2) from about 0.001 grams/10 minutes (g/10 min) to about 10 g/10 min,
 - (iv) no high density fraction,
 - (v) a single melting peak as measured using differential scanning calorimetry, and
 - (vi) a slope of strain hardening coefficient greater than or equal to 1.3; and
- (B) from about 5 percent (by weight of the total composition) to about 90 percent (by weight of the total composition) of at least one heterogeneously branched linear ethylene polymer having a density from about 0.93 g/cm³ to about 0.965 g/cm³.

REMARKS

Applicants amended the claims to limit the present invention to a particular species for the (A) component polymer i.e., the species of homogeneously branched linear ethylene polymers. Applicants also elected to amend Claims 9 and 24 to more distinctly set forth the claimed invention. Support for the amendment to Claims 9 and 24 can be found in the specification at page 13, lines 2-6.

Applicants believe that none of the above amendments to the claims add any new matter or create any new issue. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments to the claims and reconsideration of the claimed invention in view of the Third Markovich Declaration and the following remarks.

REJECTIONS

1. Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner finds the recitation "greater than about" to be indefinite because of the flexibility inherent in the term "about".

2. Claims 9-31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Lai et al. '004 or Hodgson et al. '439.